

# SATURDAY GAZETTE, FEBRUARY 21

For the Saturday Gazette.  
**THE VALUE OF FIRST IMPRESSIONS.**

The mere fact that Physiognomy as a science, has no fixed, certain value; that the observations and deductions of a Lawyer, Walker, or Hedfield give us no reliable solution of the significance of any intermediate configuration of nose, between the aggressive Roman and aristocratic Greek; or acquisitive Jewish and imbecile sub, allows a wide margin for presumption, and permits of my being duly impressed with the positive declaration of my friend Jones, that he always forms an opinion of a person at first sight, and, with an emphatic shrug and wink, "I never knew that opinion to fail."

It is but a phase of that general concession to the intuitive perceptions of others, that does so much more credit to the heart than to the head. My neighbor's observation that he thinks "it will clear up cold about mid-night," obviates with me understanding more surely than any personal deductions; the lurking suspicion of my own prognostication being immediately banished, and safety insured to the emphatic reply to Mary's surmises, that she may expect a clear morning to "hang out" the washing.

Does it not matter if some plausible fellow intrude into the good estimation of sagacious Jones and eventually open his eyes to the fact that he is a victim of his own ordering. The gap of momentary wonderment readily closes up, and our faith remains intact.

And this "faculty" for "first sight" knowledge is not confined to the mature Jones, of large intercourse with men, but qualifies the impotent state of the little occupant of the cradle, and woe to the unfortunate wight who seeks audience of that august presence and is received with a frown! The miserable victim of automatic displeasure is punished at every tea-table, and the suffrage of would-be mothers-in-law loyally withdrawn, and, beware! written on the reverse of every threshold we seek to cross!

There is really something appalling in this summary disposal of another's character—this dragging him to the brink of a sea of conjecture and whims and casting him in to see whether he sink or float. But the brutal adherence to prejudice and cross-grained impressions is so marked with the most of us, that the unfortunate object coming upon our mental vision, when all things conspire to an optical delusion, stands but little chance of subsequent justification.

The only reason that I can assign for the reckless fearlessness with which we sail forth, every day, to run the gauntlet of the hundred eyes sure to pierce us with knowing intent, is, that we reserve the unques-tionable prerogative to defiantly reflect from our whole personality, a withering "You're another." And, as before remarked, the horrible injustice of these landed impressions lies in the fact that our mental photograph of another's worth or worthlessness, once taken, must by virtue of the necessary deference to our own infallible intuitions forever abide. No matter if I got out on the wrong side of the bed in the morning; decided the nicely served chop a miserable chip; forgot to kiss baby, and banged the door at my exit, the miserable wretch, crossing my path, if he cared for his reputation, should have known instinctively to avoid my stormy course and await a sunnier morrow to salute my colors!

But we are forced to act a better and juster self than we care to own, so often, that if we were not apprised of its general existence, as a troublesome weakness, we might become exasperated at the disloyalty to our precious dignity.

The timely courtesy, of one under our ban, averting an annoying position, and seemingly prompted by none but the most disinterested motive, introduces a provoking clow to justly inquire the condition of our astute personality, and leaves no alternative but the bribery to our perpetual service, of thimblet in cap and bells. And how care fully we teach him the necessity for due circumspection in the presence of a third party, that we may thereby ingloriously preserve a reputation for consistency!

After all it is a real solid comfort—how ever detectably bought—to know that however badly we may suffer at the hands—or better, tongues—of others we can think a deal worse of them; and it is this comforting assurance which bears out our light from the gossiping circle where his departure is the signal for a comparison of notes.

And who of us can avoid retaliation if the members of that circle meet him on the morrow and by unmistakable looks and acts intimate a qualification of yesterday's opinion? If he scorn to passionately stamp their estimation infamous, will the lofty air of stoical indifference any the less proclaim "I'm as good as you; and, a little better!"

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The bill to set off Franklin from Belleville, has passed both houses of the Legislature.

**NEW JERSEY SUNDAY LAW.**

No State in the Union deserves higher respect for its laws and their judicious enforcement than New Jersey. In moral tone and general intelligence she is not behind the chief of the fraternity. The Legislature, however, at its last session, made a mistake, and passed a supplement to the "Act for the Suppression of Vice and Immorality," and thereby made it lawful for any railroad company to run one passenger train each way over their roads on Sunday. Now the people petition the Senate and Assembly to repeal the supplement and restore the time-honored Sunday law to its original standard. Petitions are in circulation, and we trust every one of our friends in the State will sign one of them, and thus wake such an expression of public sentiment as will command the respectful attention and secure the right action of the Legislature.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We are indebted to our friend and neighbor, Dr. T. Warren Esq., of Montclair, who with his family, is now traveling abroad, for a copy of the Italian News of January 34th. It is an ably conducted and spicy sheet published at Rome, Florence and Naples.

We would like to give our readers an inkling of the world's life in the far distant city of that delightful clime. We used to hear Washington Irving say that the climate or more especially the atmospheric changes and beauties of the Hudson River Valley below the highlands, at certain seasons of the year, greatly resembled the Italian climate, and in some respects surpassed it in attractiveness and in its magic effect upon the nervous and mental system. We copy some items from the Home Local:

ROME.

The Rev. Thos. Emerson of Braintree Mass. will preach at the American Church in the Vic Condotto to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

At the conference to be held at the Young Men's Christian Association to-morrow evening the Rev. W. Crawford will give some interesting particulars of a recent visit to Palestine.

RUMINATIONS, the celebrated Russian Pianist and composer will give his third and final concert in Rome at the Sala Dante, on Monday evening at 9 o'clock. The programme contains selections from Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Weber, Scarlatti, Schenham, Field, and in addition the brilliant executant will play some pieces of his own composition.

The Entertainment given on Thursday evening on behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association was a financial success, the Hall being filled by a highly fashionable and appreciative audience. The musical part of the Entertainment was very superior; Prof. Rotoli presided at the piano and accompanied the vocalists Miss Van Meter, and Mr. William Grant whose performances would have been creditable to the first rank of professionals.

H. T. Ticknor read selections from American authors, with all the finish of an accomplished and practiced elocutionist. Mr. J. Shirib read one of the Ingoldsby legends, and a selection of the Songs of the Campagna, and the Rev. H. R. White read an original poem entitled "Ulla's Tower." Mr. Joaquin Miller, the American poet, had promised to attend, but with a poet's license neither appeared nor sent an apology for his absence.

The New CARDINALS.—The Secretary of several Congregations have called on the new Cardinals to ask them as usual to take the oath to keep secret what passed in the Conventions to which they have been appointed as prefets. The Cardinals took the required oaths.

THE THEATRE PRANDI.—Another performance for the benefit of the American creche was given last evening, under the same distinguished patronage as before. The entertainment was put up regardless of expense, and appeared to give entire satisfaction.

ARCHAEOLOGY.—Professor Fabio Gorri will to-morrow continue his popular archaeological excursions which were a great success during the last scholastic year.

THE CARNIVAL.—A long notice is given of this entertainment to commence on 7th, February Gladiatorial and Pugilistic combats are first on the programme. The Emperor and suite are to witness the performances and distribute prizes to the victors, that we may thereby ingeniously preserve a reputation for consistency!

After all it is a real solid comfort—how ever detectably bought—to know that however badly we may suffer at the hands—or better, tongues—of others we can think a deal worse of them; and it is this comforting assurance which bears out our light from the gossiping circle where his departure is the signal for a comparison of notes.

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## SPECIAL NOTICES.

### EEXAMINATION.

The Board of Examiners for Essex County, will meet in the Eastern District of East Orange, on Saturday the 28th Inst., for the examination of candidates for teacher's certificates.

Candidates should be present by 9 o'clock A. M.

CHARLES M. DAVIS,  
County Superintendent.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY.

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also series of Pictures to amuse the Young Folks.

Tickets 25 and 35 cents, to be had at Dr. White's Drug Store, at the Post Office, and at the door of the Church on the evening of entertainment.

C. F. & R. BURNETT,

DEALERS IN

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10 & 17 Academy Street,

NEWARK, N. J.

Write for Price List.

DIED.

DAVIS.—On the 16th inst. at the Home of Agnes Worcester, Newark, Elizabeth Drake Davis, in the 10th year of her age.

SIMITH.—At Tappan, N. Y., on Tuesday, Feb. 17, Nancy Smith, widow of George Smith, in the 90th year of her age.

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